## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-02 IOE-00 /072 W
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P R 241138Z JUN 77 FM AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4276 INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

CONFIDENTIAL OUAGADOUGOU 2338

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PFOR, US, UN, SF, WA, UV SUBJECT: BRIEFING OF PRESIDENT LAMIZANA ON NAMIBIA TALKS

**REF: STATE 142378** 

1. THE FRENCH AND GERMAN CHARGES AND MYSELF MET WITH PRESIDENT LAMIZANA JUNE 23 TO GIVE ORAL BRIEFING ON PROGRESS OF THE CAPETOWN TALKS ON NAMIBIA. (THE CANADIAN REPRESENTATIVE HERE CONFINES HIMSELF TO DEVELOPMENT MATTERS, AND THE BRITISH HAVE NO REPRESENTATION.) THE PRESENTATION WAS MADE BY THE FRENCH CHARGE, WORKING FROM HAND-WRITTEN NOTES THAT THE THREE CHARGES HAD GONE OVER AND AGREED UPTN BEFORE HAND. THE PRESIDENT RECEIVED US ALONE WITHOUT ANY AIDES. (THE FOREIGN MINISTER IS ALREADY IN LIBREVILLE

FOR OAU PREPARATORY MEETING.)

2. THE PRESIDENT LISTENED ATTENTIVELY TO THE POINTS AND RECEIVED THE BRIEFING IN THE SPIRIT THAT IT WAS INTENDED. HE HAD NO PRECISE FOLLOW-UP QUESTIONS, BUT SAID THAT HE WAS CONFIDENTIAL

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GLAD TO HEAR THAT
THERE HAD BEEN SOME PROGRESS ON THE NAMIBIA QUESTION.
HE SAID THAT HE SINCERELY HOPED THAT A PEACEFUL
SOLUTION COULD BE FOUND ALTHOUGH PERSONALLY HE WAS
NOT VERY OPTIMISTIC THAT IT WILL COME FAST ENOUGH
NOW THAT MACHINE GUNS ARE GETTING INTO THE ACT.
HE ADDED THAT HE HAS BEEN GOING TO OAU CONFERENCES

FOR ELEVEN YEARS AND THAT THE RECORD OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN WHITES DURING THIS TIME IS NOT VERY ENCOURAGING. NEVERTHELESS, HE SAID, HE HOPED THAT THE WESTERN GOVERNMENTS WOULD PERSIST IN THEIR EFFORTS TO WORK OUT A SETTLEMENT.

3. PROCEDURAL COMMENT: ALTHOUGH STATE/USUN STRESSED THE URGENCY OF THE BRIEFING, THEIR UNWILLINGNESS TO PROVIDE A FRENCH LANGUAGE TEXT DELAYED THE BRIEFING HERE FOR ABOUT TWO DAYS. BELIEVE IT WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER FOR ONE TRANSLATOR TO DO A TRANSLATION IN NEW YORK OR WASHINGTON RATHER THAN TWENTY TRANSLATORS DOING THE JOB TWENTY TIMES THROUGHOUT FRANCOPHONE AFRICA, ESPECIALLY WHEN INVOLVING CLOSEHOLD INFORMATION. INCREDIBLY, THE FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTRY FORWARDED THE TEST TO ITS EMBASSIES IN ENGLISH\*

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TAGS: PFOR, US, SF, WA, UV, UK, FR, CA, GE, UN, (LAMIZANA, ABOUBACAR SANGOULE),

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